FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Jan. 5, 2015

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## BLM starts public comment period on forestry project

**CANON CITY, Colo.** – The Bureau of Land Management's Royal Gorge Field Office wants your input on a proposed project to implement elements of the Colorado Bark Beetle Strategic Plan. The purpose of the project is to reduce the threat to public safety and infrastructure posed by beetle-killed trees in travel corridors and other high-risk areas; provide for resilient forests; and reduce fire and erosion risk.

The proposed project covers approximately 2,900 acres of BLM-managed public lands in northern Fremont County near Stoney Face, Waugh and Jack Hall mountains. Activities under consideration include commercial timber harvest, non-commercial timber management and prescribed fire.

Additional information on the project, including a map of the project area, can be found on the BLM's website at: <a href="http://blm.gov/h4ld">http://blm.gov/h4ld</a>. For additional information about the project, please contact Ken Reed at 719-269-8576 or kreed@blm.gov.

A scoping period gives the public a chance to tell the BLM what issues and concerns they think should be addressed in the Environmental Assessment and alternatives before the BLM begins drafting the document. You can mail your comments to: BLM Royal Gorge Field Office, Attn: Ken Reed, 3028 East Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212; or email to: rgfo\_comments@blm.gov. Your comments will be most helpful if received by Jan. 30, 2015.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Thank you for your interest in the management of your public lands within the Royal Gorge Field Office.

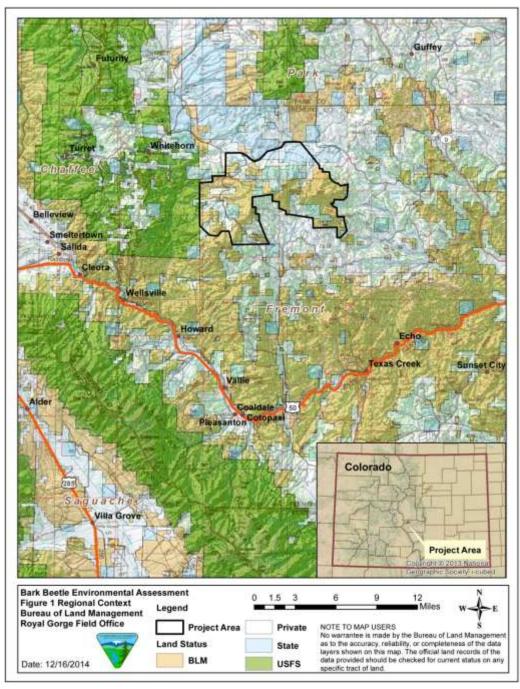


Figure 1: The BLM's proposed bark beetle project is located on BLM-managed lands near Stoney Face, Waugh and Jack Hall mountains in northern Fremont County.